

(that is, on the basis of one dollar being equal to thirty dollars ninety-six cents and nine mills compounded for same period at same interest); so that the difference in favor of the bank would be fourteen dollars and sixty-six cents instead of sixty-five dollars and eight cents. Either difference, however, is unimportant in result at the end of twenty years, when the important feature of protection is duly considered, as in the event of death, even the day after the policy is issued, one thousand dollars would be paid.

Now, it gives me pleasure to answer this article, because it is broad and fair from an individual stand-point. But let us consider the large percentage of individuals and their needs during and for years after the end of twenty years, as the life-insurance options from year to year are most admirably adapted to changes that are apt to occur. Life-insurance deposits are mainly intended to protect valuable life during earning years. These deposits, however, have developed into one of the most secure and ideal investments of the age. Too often bank deposits are so easily getatable when a little self-denial would encourage thrift. Of course, it is not easy to select just what is best in kind and amount of life insurance, as very often the amount selected is too large and the kind too costly. Shorter-term policies than twenty years are not usually profitable investments, unless full credit is given to the important feature of protection from the moment policies are issued, with the compulsory saving added. Unfortunately, some agents misrepresent, but the policy should be the main guide.

I have tried to answer the article fully and fairly, and am glad to know that it recognizes the importance of protection, which is apt to be needed by the great majority at some time during earning years.

GRADUATE NURSE.

DEAR EDITOR: In reply to your request regarding small-pox I beg leave to offer you my experience after having nursed upwards of four hundred cases under the supervision of Dr. Craig, who has made a study of the disease.

I. *Treatment.*—The preliminary stages rarely came under my care. During the secondary fever the patient should be carefully watched, fever and delirium combated with cold baths. They may be repeated every three hours if the temperature persists over 103°. If the pulse becomes weak and rapid, the patient may, by the judicious use of strychnine and whiskey, often be guided past the crisis and landed on the highway to recovery. The food should consist of liquids, chiefly milk. As the patient recovers he is given substantial nourishment and generally takes it well. The bowels are kept freely open and diarrhoea prevented. During desquamation the patient is given daily warm baths, using plenty of soap. Carbolized oil, 1 to 80, is applied locally to prevent itching, to destroy the odor, and to disinfect and prevent the drying and blowing about of scales. The throat and tongue are kept clean with hydrogen peroxide spray. The eyes are bathed with mild antiseptic solutions. The treatment in many cases is for the most part symptomatic, as numerous complications may arise.

II. Scarring depends on the depth of the pustules and is practically beyond control. Several methods were tried, including covering the face with a mask, keeping the patient in darkness, closing out all but the red rays by means of red blinds. Notwithstanding several cases of pitting resulted.

III. The red spots eventually disappear, but much more slowly in brunettes. The frequent application of absolute alcohol may hasten the process.

IV. The nurse should keep a close watch on the temperature, pulse, respirations, and general condition during the critical stage of the secondary fever. Many cases may be saved at this period by proper treatment. Yours truly,
LIZZIE C. RITCHIE, Ottawa, Ont.

DEAR EDITOR: In answer to E. V.'s questions as to the treatment of smallpox, prevention of scarring, etc., I would say that I have nursed some twenty-eight cases during the late epidemic and find that the best treatment is absolute cleanliness. Complications must be treated as they arise. There is no "set" rule in the treatment of this disease.

II. In my experience I have tried many remedies to prevent scarring, but found none of any actual benefit. "Pitting" is bound to occur in severe cases, and can only be removed by subsequent treatment by a skin specialist.

III. Time alone will remove the "red spots."

IV. The first symptoms to be observed are headache, chills with accompanying fever, severe pain in the back, low down, usually in the region of the kidneys, rapid pulse, and often delirium. This condition lasts three or four days, when the rash appears on the forehead and arms. On the forehead particularly the spots feel like shot under the skin. The temperature drops now and remains down along the normal line until the eighth or ninth day, when the vesicles become pustular and we have a secondary rise of temperature. At this stage the eyes must be carefully watched and kept very clean. Sometimes it is necessary to wash them with some medicated solution every fifteen minutes—to prevent ulceration of cornea. About the twelfth day the pustules begin to dry off and the period of convalescence is reached. The complications most dreaded are albuminuria, pneumonia, sore throat, and diarrhoea.

E. T. M., Philadelphia.

DEAR EDITOR: Through the columns of *THE AMERICAN JOURNAL OF NURSING* I want to reach every superintendent of Eastern training-schools to inform them of a pleasant feature that may be added to their journey to Detroit when they come to our convention in September.

The Detroit and Buffalo Steamboat Company is operating a daily service between those two cities via Lake Erie. Its steamers are the Eastern States and the Western States, and they are palatial, "up-to-date" boats. They leave Buffalo at five-thirty P.M., arrive in Detroit at seven-thirty A.M.; leave Detroit at four P.M. and arrive in Buffalo at seven-thirty A.M. The route connects with all the main railroad lines, and through tickets can be bought in Eastern or Western cities, thus providing for all transfers of passengers and baggage from depot to wharf.

The cost is three dollars less than by railway. Briefly expressed, those are the salient features that recommend the trip, but they embrace a small part of the delightful experiences of the journey. Coolness, cleanliness, and comfort are accompaniments, and it is worth a long trip to enjoy one such restful night in the cosey, roomy state-room with its wide berths and other nice appointments.

The meals, let me add, are extra, a la carte, excellent in quality and beautifully served.

I wish all of our visitors might obtain their first view of the historic old "City of the Straits" from the Detroit River front, for it is such a lovely approach. However, no matter in what manner they come, they can all be assured of a warm welcome.